

Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 INRE-00 EUR-08

SAJ-01 DODE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 NSCE-00 L-01 PM-03 IO-03

RSC-01 SSO-00 /050 W

----- 127411

O 090610Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4686

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 2499

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, SA, YE, YS, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET MILITARY MISSION FOR NORTH YEMEN

REF: TEHRAN 10357; SANAA 2496; (BOTH NOTAL)

1. JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR MUSTAFA AND JORDANIAN MILITARY ADVISOR LTC ABU ZAYD TOLD ME EVENING DEC 8 THAT THEY NOT AWARE OF ANY AGREEMENTS SIGNED BETWEEN SOVIET TEAM AND YAR MILITARY. THEY INCLINED TO BELIEVE IRANIAN REPORT ONLY REFERS TO SOVIET PROPOSALS.

2. SAUDI CHARGE AND MILATT SIMILARLY EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM THAT ANY SUCH AGREEMENT WOULD BRING STRONGLY NEGATIVE REACTION FROM SAG.

3. IRANIAN AMBASSADOR SABITI TOLD ME THAT HE HAD REPORTED TO TEHRAN POSSIBLE SIGNING OF AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE 200 ADVISORS (THIS WOULD IN FACT BE RENEWAL CURRENT USSR-YAR AGREEMENT) AND AGREEMENT BUILD AIRFIELD AT BEIDHA ESSENTIALLY AS
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UNCONFIRMED RUMORS.

4. IT IS PERHAPS CONCEIVABLE THAT YARG FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL REASONS AGREED TO RENEW ADVISORY AGREEMENT, BUT BELIEVE YARG WOULD HAVE TO ANTICIPATE THAT THIS MIGHT JEOPARDIZE POTENTIAL MAJOR SAG MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SINCE LATTER, ACCORDING SAG SOURCES HERE, HAS FIRM ASSURANCES THAT SOVIET ADVISERS WILL BE PHASED OUT. MOREOVER WHAT YARG REALLY WANTS IS NEW EQUIPMENT. SOVIET TEAM HAS BEEN HERE AT USSR REQUEST OBVIOUSLY STIMULATED BY UNEASE OVER GOI AND GOJ TRAINING EFFORTS AND RECENT VISITS OF SAG AND USG MILITARY TEAMS. SINCE SAUDI'S AND JORDANIANS HAVE MUCH BETTER ACCESS HERE TO YARG MILITARY THAN DO IRANIANS, SUGGEST WE WAIT FOR THEIR READING ON SOVIET VISIT IN NEXT FEW DAYS BEFORE DRAWING ANY CONCLUSIONS BASED SOLELY ON IRANIAN REPORT.
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